

week 2:	turn up the heat
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Before we build a fire and do any cooking, we need to make sure we are ready and prepared!

Games:

1. **Steam Release:** Fires and Firefighters

Divide the pack into two teams. One team are FIRE and the other FIREFIGHTERS. The teams stand at opposite ends of the playing area and facing each other. Draw a line in front of each team. On "go" the FIRE comes forward and tries to get as near to the FIREFIGHTERS as they can. The Scouter blows a whistle which is the signal for the FIREFIGHTERS to rush forward and try to put out (touch) as many fires as they can. When a FIRE is put out (touched) he/she must join the FIREFIGHTERS. After two or three times the original teams change over and the game begins again. Those not caught by the end of the game are the winners. (*How to run Cubs – Book 1*)

2. **Relay:** Flapjack Flip

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3. **Active:** Clumps

The Cubs are scattered around the playing area (fire). On go, they run around. The Pack Scouter calls a number, e.g. "FOUR" and the Cubs must immediately get into clumps of four (fire sticks together and grows). If "ONE" is called, the Cubs must sit on the floor. Any Cubs not quick enough to form groups lose lives (the fire dies). The winning Cub is the one who has lost the least lives. (*How to run Cubs – Book 1*)

4. **Wide:** Building a fire

Explain to the Cubs what they need to build a successful cooking fire. Let the Cubs run around outside finding what they need for the fire and lay out what they have found. This game can be followed by actually laying and lighting the fire. (See **Handcrafts/Activities**)

5. **Circle:** The Fire and the Water

The Cubs form a circle (fire break) with one Cub in the middle (fire) and another one outside the circle (water). The object of the game is for the water to get through the fire break to catch up with the fire. The Cubs forming the fire break can assist the water by letting him/her in or out the circle at any time, but they should try to stop the fire. When the fire is caught that Cub becomes the water and then chooses another Cub to be the fire. No Cub should have two turns. (*How to run Cubs – Book 1*)

What do we need to have handy before we can make a fire?

Sense training:

1. **Kim's Game:** Sight

Put out different items on a tray for the Cubs to look at and which relate to making fires and fire safety (e.g. Matches, candle, cup of water, cup of sand, sticks, kindling, etc). After letting the Cubs look at the items for a minute or so, cover the items and let the Cubs write down what they saw on the tray.

2. **Kim's Game:** Touch

Put a variety of items into a bucket of water and cover the bucket with a cloth. Have one bucket for each Six (with the same items). One at a time the Cubs will run up and the Scouter will tell the Cub what to find by feeling around in the water. When the item has been found, the Cub will take it out of the bucket and run back to their Six. The next Cub will run up and get told of a different item to find in the water and so on until all items have been found.

There are many wonderful and interesting stories about fires ... this one comes from the North American Indians ...

Yarn:

How Coyote Stole Fire Story

Long ago, when man was newly come into the world, there were days when he was the happiest creature of all. Those were the days when spring brushed across the willow tails, or when his children ripened with the blueberries in the sun of summer, or when the goldenrod bloomed in the autumn haze.

But always the mists of autumn evenings grew more chilly, and the sun's strokes grew shorter. Then man saw winter moving near, and he became fearful and unhappy. He was afraid for his children, and for the grandfathers and grandmothers who carried in their heads the sacred tales of the tribe. Many of these, young and old, would die in the long, ice-bitter months of winter.

Coyote, like the rest of the People, had no need for fire. So he seldom concerned himself with it, until one spring day when he was passing a human village. There the women were singing a song of mourning for the babies and the old ones who had died in the winter. Their voices moaned like the west wind through a buffalo skull, prickling the hairs on Coyote's neck. 'Feel how the sun is now warm on our backs,' one of the men was saying. 'Feel how it warms the earth and makes these stones hot to the touch. If only we could have had a small piece of the sun in our teepees during the winter.'

Coyote, overhearing this, felt sorry for the men and women. He also felt that there was something he could do to help them. He knew of a faraway mountain-top where the three Fire Guardians lived. These Guardians kept fire to themselves, guarding it carefully for fear that man might somehow acquire it and become as strong as they. Coyote saw that he could do a good turn for man at the expense of these selfish Fire Guardians.

So Coyote went to the mountain of the Fire Guardians and crept to its top, to watch the way that the Guardians guarded their fire. As he came near, the Guardians leaped to their feet and gazed searchingly round their camp. Their eyes glinted like diamonds, and their hands were clawed like the talons of the great black vulture.

'What's that? What's that I hear?' hissed one of the Guardians.

'A thief, skulking in the bushes!' screeched another.

The third looked more closely, and saw Coyote. But he had gone to the mountain-top on all fours, so the Being thought she saw only an ordinary coyote slinking among the trees. 'It is no one, it is nothing!' she cried, and the other two looked where she pointed and also saw

only a grey coyote. They sat down again by their fire and paid Coyote no more attention. So he watched all day and night as the Fire Guardians guarded their fire. He saw how they fed it pine cones and dry branches from the sycamore trees. He saw how they stamped furiously on runaway rivulets of flame that sometimes nibbled outwards on edges of dry grass. He saw also how, at night, the Guardians took turns to sit by the fire. Two would sleep while one was on guard; and at certain times the Being by the fire would get up and go into their teepee, and another would come out to sit by the fire.

Coyote saw that the Guardians were always jealously watchful of their fire except during one part of the day. That was in the earliest morning, when the first winds of dawn arose on the mountains. Then the Being by the fire would hurry, shivering, into the teepee calling, 'Sister, sister, go out and watch the fire.' But the next Being would always be slow to go out for her turn, her head spinning with sleep and the thin dreams of dawn.

Coyote, seeing all this, went down the mountain and spoke to some of his friends among the People. He told them of hairless man, fearing the cold and death of winter. And he told them of the Fire Guardians, and the warmth and brightness of the flame. They all agreed that man should have fire, and they all promised to help Coyote's undertaking.

Then Coyote sped again to the mountain-top. Coyote waited through the day, and watched as night fell and two of the Guardians went off to the teepee to sleep. He watched as they changed over at certain times all the night long, until at last the dawn winds rose. Then the Being on guard called, 'Sister, sister, get up and watch the fire.' And the Being whose turn it was climbed slow and sleepy from her bed, saying, 'Yes, yes, I am coming. Do not shout so.'

But before she could come out of the teepee, Coyote lunged from the bushes, snatched up a glowing portion of fire, and sprang away down the mountainside.

Screaming, the Fire Guardians flew after him. Swift as Coyote ran, they caught up with him, and one of them reached out a clutching hand. Her fingers touched only the tip of the tail, but the touch was enough to turn the hairs white, and coyote tail-tips are white still.

Coyote shouted, and flung the fire away from him. But the others of the People had gathered at the mountain's foot, in case they were needed. Squirrel saw the fire falling, and caught it, putting it on her back and fleeing away through the tree-tops. The fire scorched her back so painfully that her tail curled up and back, as squirrels' tails still do today.

The Fire Guardians then pursued Squirrel, who threw the fire to Chipmunk. Chattering with fear, Chipmunk stood still as if rooted until the Guardians were almost upon her. Then, as she turned to run, one Being clawed at her, tearing down the length of her back and leaving three stripes that are to be seen on chipmunks' backs even today.

Chipmunk threw the fire to Frog, and the Guardians turned towards him. One of the Guardians grasped his tail, but Frog gave a mighty leap and tore himself free, leaving his tail behind in the Being's hand:-which is why frogs have had no tails ever since.

As the Guardians came after him again, Frog flung the fire on to Wood. And Wood swallowed it.

The Fire Guardians gathered round, but they did not know how to get the fire out of Wood. They promised it gifts, sang to it and shouted at it. They twisted it and struck it and tore it with their knives. But Wood did not give up the fire. In the end, defeated, the Guardians went back to their mountain-top and left the People alone.

But Coyote knew how to get fire out of Wood. And he went to the village of men and showed them how. He showed them the trick of rubbing two dry sticks together, and the trick of spinning a sharpened stick in a hole made in another piece of wood. So man was from then on warm and safe through the killing cold of winter.

First we need to build a fire and then we need water or sand to put out fires ... sometimes we get water from a windmill.

Craft/Activity:

1. **Handcraft:** Windmills

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2. **Activity:** Lay and light a fire

Using the items collected during the wide game, let the Cubs lay and light their own fire. Once they have got their fires going the Cubs can boil a small amount of water over their fire using a tin/billy can. The water they have heated up can be used to make hot chocolate. ***PLEASE REMEMBER THAT FIRE IS DANGEROUS. Ensure the Cubs are supervised at all times whilst working with fire and that all safety rules are explained and observed during this activity.*** Ensure that the Cubs working on the Gold Wolf advancement are aware of the process of laying and lighting a fire outdoors.

Fires are great to sit around and sing songs ... do you know any campfire songs?

Singing/Play Acting:

1. **Singing:** Campfire's Burning

Camp fire's burning, camp fire's burning
Draw nearer, draw nearer,
In the glowing, in the glowing
Come sing and be merry

2. **Play Acting:** Uses and Dangers of Fire

Ask each Six to mime either one of the uses or dangers of fire. Give the Cubs five minutes to prepare their mime and then each one has a turn to perform in front of the rest of the Pack.

Advancement covered:

Silver Wolf:

Campcraft: Lay and light a cooking fire and successfully boil a mug (or similar) of water.
(Activity)

Gold Wolf:

Campcraft: Lay and light a fire outdoors and the correct way to light a fire in the open bush.
(Activity)